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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Peter HAWKINS

Application No.: 09/816,225

Filed: March 26, 2001

For: PARAMAGNETIC PARTICLE DETECTION

Group Art Unit: 1641

Examiner: P. Do

Docket No.: 109068

AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In reply to the October 22, 2002 Office Action, the period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to February 22, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 14 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please replace claim 9 as follows:

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9. (Amended) A method of performing a binding assay by determining the number of magnetic particles bound to a substrate, the method comprising:
- immobilizing a layer of molecules to a substrate;
 - providing a number of magnetic particles as labels;
 - performing a reaction using the molecular layer so as to bind at least some of the magnetic particles to the substrate; and,
 - determining the number of magnetic particles bound to the substrate by determining the difference in the resonant frequency of a tuned circuit

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